

AMENDMENT(S) TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page 1, please delete the title of the invention, “Metal pigments comprising a cross-linkable binding agent coating, coating composition, method for the production of coated metal pigments and use thereof”, and replace it with the following title:

Metallic pigments having a cross-linkable coating of binding agent, coating composition, process for the preparation of said coated metallic pigments, and use of said colored metallic pigments

On page 1, after the title, insert:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application is a 35 U.S.C. § 371 national phase conversion of PCT/EP2004/014663, filed December 23, 2004, which claims priority of German Application No. 103 61 437.0, filed December 23, 2003. The PCT International Application was published in the German language.

On page 1, at line 5, before the paragraph beginning with, “The present invention relates to the provision of coated metallic...”, please insert:

Technical Field

On page 1, at line 9, before the paragraph beginning with, “Metallic pigments are widely used for the pigmentation of paints...”, please insert:

Background of the Invention

On page 4, at line 32, before the paragraph beginning with, “It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide a metallic...”, please insert:

Summary of the Invention

On page 7, at line 7, before the paragraph beginning with, “Within the scope of the invention...”, please insert:

Brief Description of the Drawings

Fig. 1 is a scanning electron microscope image of a coated metallic pigment as used in Example 1 of the invention; and

Fig. 2 is a scanning electron microscope image of a starting pigment as used in Comparative Example 6 of the invention.

On page 7, at line 7 after the ‘Brief Description of Drawings’ and before the paragraph beginning with, “Within the scope of the invention...”, please insert:

Detailed Description of Certain Embodiments of the Invention

On page 25, at line 17, before the sentence, “The following examples and figures explain, but...”, please insert:

Examples

On page 32, at the top of the page before claim 1, please insert:

What is claimed is:

On page 40, please delete the heading, “Summary”, and replace it with:

Abstract of the Disclosure

On page 40, please amend the abstract as follows:

The invention relates to Coated coated metallic pigments wherein the coating envelops the metallic pigments and comprises one or more than one cross-linkable oligomeric and/or polymeric bonding agent that can be cross-linked chemically and/or by heat, IR radiation, UV radiation, and/or electron radiation, wherein the coated metallic pigments are present as a powder having a mean particle size d₅₀ of less than 190 µm, and are corrosion stable in a powder-based varnish after they have been cured. Also included is The invention further relates to a coating composition, [[to]] a process for the production of said coated metallic pigments and [[to]] the use thereof.